

### **In the Specification**

***Please replace the paragraph spanning pages 13 and 14 with the following:***

The steel strip 9 sometimes travels along a zigzag path in the widthwise direction during molten metal plating, and hence, the baffle plate 6 and the edge wiping nozzle 7 also follow such zigzag path. In this embodiment, control means (not shown) is provided for controlling the drive means 10 such that the clearance C (mm) is held constant between the edge 91 of the steel strip 9 and the inner edge 61 of the baffle plate 6. The controller is connected to maintain the jet nozzles such that they are spaced from the adjacent edge of the metal strip at a distance C which is 4 to 7 mm and maintain the relationship between distances L and C such that they satisfy the following equation:  $-2.0C + 20 \leq L \leq -2.5C + 45$ .